



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: First Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 p.m. in place of the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

PUBLIC SERVICE

2013 Cycle for Life: Oct. 5

2013 City of Oaks Marathon:
Nov. 3

2013 Makin' Room for Turkey Ride: Nov. 17

To sign up or learn more, visit
http://www.rars.org/public-service/ps_signup.php.

RARS General Meeting



What: RARS Auction -- register your items [here](#)

Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2013

Time: Registration starts at 6:40 p.m.; Meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Where: RLBC, Inc., 3200 Bush Street, Raleigh, NC

Have an idea for a meeting? [Email the RARS Vice President!](#)

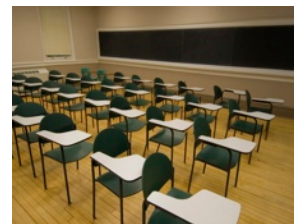
Get Your General License!

By Murray Merner, K4MHM, Education Director

RARS will conduct a three-session **General Class License Course** this fall.

When: Oct 19, 26, Nov 2.

Where: RLBC, 3200 Bush Street (between Atlantic Street and Wake Forest just north of I-440 beltline), Raleigh, N.C.



Sessions: The sessions will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end around 12:00 noon. The **First Session** is Orientation which will include registration and book distribution and may be shorter. The **Second Session** will be the first half of the manual and the **Third Session** will cover the remainder of the chapters.

Instructor: Mike Murphy, WA4BPJ

Fee: The fee is \$30.00 including the required current manual (The ARRL **General Class License Manual, 7th Edition**). If you already have this manual, the fee is \$10.00.

See **General Class**, continued on p. 4

RARS Officers

PRESIDENT

Karl Bowman
W4CHX
919.669.6068
w4chx@arrrl.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Candy Orr
NC4CJ
919-217-7734
cjorr@bellsouth.net

SECRETARY

Bob Chew
KI4YXM
919.782.5778
rlchew@mindspring.com

TREASURER

Greg Seamster
KE4PAX
919.859.0029
ke4pax@arrrl.net



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.



Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).

Exciter

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Cathy Downs, KA3QPU, editor (editor@rars.org)

For Your Information

RARS General Meeting

Date: First Tuesday of each month

Location: RLCB, Inc.

3200 Bush Street,
Raleigh, NC, 27609 *New Location*

Time: People begin arriving at 7 p.m.

The meeting officially begins at
7:30 p.m.

RARS Monthly Dinner

Join us on the second Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family. Feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check www.rars.org for details on the next dinner's location.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 & 443.625 (88.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSFest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

Message from the President

Stuff. I have been thinking about stuff lately. You know, the stuff in the garage, the house, the storage unit, and most pointedly, the stuff in my ham shack. This weekend, I am going to a hamfest to pick up several "boat anchors." For those who may not be fluent in hamspeak, a "boat anchor" refers to vintage (read: heavy) amateur radio equipment.

I suppose you could anchor watercraft with some of these radios, but that would be a poor use for an antique with potential and probably put the boat at risk. I prefer to think about some "boat anchors" the way Johnnie WA9SZL does, "Now there's a boat anchor worth building a boat around!"

But therein lays the problem: I have found and purchased too many "boat anchors," so there is too much stuff in my ham shack. Now, I find myself thinking about that stuff and working on plans to reduce it. This leads to some interesting thoughts. For example, maybe selling some of my "boat anchors" will help pay for the new ones (reality: I wonder if they can be sold for as much as they cost me?)

Here's another one: it will be great to live with less clutter (reality: I should have been living with less clutter long before now!)

And finally, how can I make sure this stuff gets into the hands of someone who will appreciate it? Well, the only one who can make those things happen, particularly the last one, is myself. And, I'd rather do that now, than have someone do that for me (or my family) in the future.

Do you have too much stuff? You can sell (or donate) your ham radio stuff at the annual RARS Auction, which will be held during the next regular general membership meeting on Tuesday, October 1. Please see the RARS website for further information. See you there!

73, Karl W4CHX

Examination: An **optional** examination is scheduled for the afternoon of the third session. You are not required to take the test then, and other examination sessions will be held periodically by RARS and other clubs. There is a separate fee to take the test.

Please:

1. E-mail Murray Merner, K4MHM, mmmm0320@gmail.com, to pre-register—NA if you have already contacted me. Be sure to **include your phone number** and **if you need a book**.
2. Have **exact money** for the fees.
3. Bring pen and paper for note taking.
4. Also, you are probably on a contact list and if you are not planning to attend, let me know if you still want to be on the contact list.

Events, Hamfests & Conventions

Maysville Hamfest | Oct. 13

Location: Maysville, NC

Info.: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maysville-hamfest-3>

2014 Charlotte Hamfest | March 7

Location: Concord, NC

Website: <http://www.charlottehamfest.org>

2014 Raleigh Hamfest and ARRL Roanoke Division Convention | Apr. 19

Location: Raleigh, NC

Website: <http://www.rars.org/hamfest>

August Traffic Stats

RARS Two Meter Traffic/Ragchew Net

Check-ins: 420

Traffic: 32/26

Minutes: 410

Sessions: 26

Special Interest Nets

Check-ins: 145

Minutes: 330

Sessions: 9

New RARS Members

Wade Daniel, Jr.	No License
Darryll Maddux	KJ4BJX
Ken Aanderud	No License
Jim Barnard	WA4GNW
Richard Clifton	G7EIX
Rebecca Clifton	No License
Brian Jessup	N2CMD

October Birthdays

Scott	KJ4BPV	10/01
Pete	K4PHS	10/02
Olivia	KG4IYI	10/02
Jay	KM4EP	10/02
Dave	K4SAN	10/02
Karl	K4LNX	10/03
Dale	W4AUV	10/05
Marisa	KJ4TAL	10/07
Mike	KK4HNN	10/08
Todd	AG4AY	10/08
Mike	K4PSP	10/09
Gale	K4GGB	10/10
Chris	KI4MMV	10/10
Frank	KY4W	10/11
Jeff	KK4KLZ	10/12
Sean	KJ4EGT	10/17
Candy	NC4CJ	10/18
Skip	N6LUZ	10/18
Mike	K4DRT	10/19
Joey	KE4DRJ	10/21
Gary	KN4AQ	10/22
Curt	W4CP	10/23
Ric	KI4PVC	10/25
Mike	N4WJW	10/26
Lou	W2ROW	10/27
Bill	WA3FHM	10/27
Vince	WA2SRZ	10/28
Antoinette Williams		10/29

Tour d'Orange 2013

By John Snellen, AI4RT, Public Service Director

Over 180 riders participated the Tour d'Orange bike ride, held in Hillsborough, NC, on Saturday, Sept. 21. The event raised funds that will benefit the MS Society and the National Foundation for Transplants.

At right, Marisa KJ4TAL's rest stop station.



Above, Steve W3AHL and Justin KD4CPM plan SAG strategy. At right, Wally Smith KJ4UKV at a rest stop.



Participating ham volunteers included Chuck Decourt W3WZN, John Snellen AI4RT, Bob Chew K4YXM, Mike Eckhardt KK4ETS, Wally Smith KJ4UKV, Steve Ahlbom W3AHL, Justin Heiecke KD4CPM, Wilson Lamb W4BOH, Marisa Sears KJ4TAL, Dan Sears KD4AGQ, and Larry Holt KG4FIQ.



RARS donates Ham Manuals

By Murray Merner, W4MHM, Education Director

RARS Education Director Murray Merner, K4MHM, left, presents Ben Heet, Electronic Resources Librarian for NCSU Libraries with one of the two copies of the *Technician Ham Radio License Manual* donated to NCSU Libraries by RARS. Two copies of the *ARRL Handbook* were also donated to NCSU Libraries.

One of each set will go to the Hunt and the Hill Libraries. The nameplate will say RARS donated the books "for the purpose of encouraging the learning of electronics and the participation in Amateur Radio."

Meet the Students... Technician Classes

*By Murray Merner, K4MHM,
Education Director*

Sixteen students attended the Technician Course conducted at NCSU, including 10 from the university. Mike Murphy, WA4BPJ, was the instructor. The university is interested in reinvigorating the NCSU AR station, W4ATC. Daniel Stancil, WY3O, Department Head, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, along with club advisers Jim Price, WW4M, and Danny Musten, KD4RAA, are spearheading the effort. *(Above photo by Dr. Stancil.)*



Meanwhile, 28 students attended the Technician course held at the Raleigh Red Cross on Peartree Lane. Mike Murphy, WA4BPJ, hidden from view in the picture, was the instructor. Four of the students were age 11 or younger.

For information on a General License Course, see p. 1.

RARS Classifieds

RARS Members: [Post](#) a new 30 day listing or [Edit](#) your current listings at www.rars.org/classifieds.php. The items below were listed within the last 30 days.

Need 20 Meter Dipole

Posted September 23rd, 2013

by: W4ZWA

Contact: w4zwa@yahoo.com

Looking a 20 Meter Dipole if anyone has one they would like to unload at a decent price. Looking to get on HF but current set up isn't working so good.
Thanks, Zack

www.rars.org

Sylvania Color monitor

Posted September 12th, 2013

by: AJ4HK

Contact: aj4hk@hotmail.com; 919-526-2860

Free to good home a working Sylvania 17" svga color monitor. You pick-up and it's yours for free. Again it works well, I went to a flat screen monitor.

Dennis, AJ4HK

Kenwood items

Posted August 29th, 2013

by: K4MHM

Contact: K4MHM@arrl.net

Kenwood speaker, SP-520: \$30.00

In Raleigh, NC

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting Raleigh Amateur Radio Society August 20, 2013

Present: Karl W4CHX, CJ NC4CJ, Bob K4YXM, Greg KE4PAX, Selene KG4RMT, Hank K4HM, Ken WA4JJW, Chuck K4HF, Don WA4AVU, Joanne AK4KJ, Bill AK4BL, Murray K4MHM

Apologies: John AI4RT, Bob W4TTX

1. **Call to order (Karl W4CHX):** Karl W4CHX called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. **Approval of minutes (Karl W4CHX):** The Minutes of the previous Board Meeting (July 16, 2013) were approved with three amendments.
3. **Vice President's report (CJ NC4CJ):** Topic for the Sept meeting will be on radio direction finding presented by Joseph Huberman, K5JGH. CJ NC4CJ has an auctioneer (Rick KB4TKQ) for the October meeting. The presentation at the November meeting will be on software-defined radio presented by Tim Ellison, W4TME.
4. **Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX):** RARS currently has 276 members. Taxes for 2012/2013 have been filed. GuideStar website has been updated. Donation of \$300.00 received from Carolina Tarwheels. On 8/4/13, an email reminder was sent to non-renewed members -- a total of 194 people dating back to 2010. If any RARS member has questions regarding the budget, please contact Greg KE4PAX or Karl W4CHX for more information.
5. **Secretary's report (Bob KI4YXM):** No report.
6. **Committee reports:**
 - a. **Public Service Director (John AI4RT):** Based on his email communication, John AI4RT reported, "The management for the BikeFest event are going to be making a monetary donation to RARS in recognition and thanks for the help we provided for the event which was held on Sat. Aug. 10th. We will have about 10 or so Raleigh area ham volunteers going to New Bern to help provide communications for the MS Bike Ride to be held Sat & Sun Sept. 7 & 8. The MS Crisis Management meeting for the event is being held tomorrow (Tue.), which is why I can't be at the Board Meeting."
 - b. **Public Information Officer (Ken WA4JJW):** Images of the various awards and certificates have been forwarded to Hank K4HM. Chuck K4HF indicated that he has more items and they will be forwarded to Ken WA4JJW.

- c. **Education Director (Murray K4MHM):** Murray K4MHM gave updates on the upcoming licensing courses; and, the donation of books and money to NCSU.
- d. **Field Day Chair (Bob W4TTX):** Based on his email communication, Bob W4TTX reported that he did not have a report regarding Field Day. He inquired about the grass mowing bill for the Field Day site. Greg KE4PAX reported that the bill for spraying at the Field Day site has been paid.
- e. **FM Repeater Chair (Karl W4CHX):** Karl W4CHX thanked Cliff W4FT for providing leadership for the repairs to the repeater building at the Bayleaf tower site. This was followed by a discussion of who would be providing leadership hereafter and the remaining steps in the project, i.e., roofing, siding, and interior repairs.
- f. **RARSFest Chair (John AI4RT):** Based on his email communication, John AI4RT reported, “The first Planning Committee meeting will be held on Monday Sept. 23 at 7:00 p.m. Will be making contact with last years Team Leaders soon, in order to determine which slots need to be filled for RARSFest 2014. Chuck deCourt is taking a more active role in planning RARSFest.” There was a short discussion about other possible locations for holding small-group meetings, e.g., RARSfest planning sessions.
- g. **Exciter Chair (Cathy KA3QPU):** Please send articles.
- h. **Hospitality Chair (Charles WB4DCM):**
- i. **Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA):** No report.
- j. **ARRL Liaison (Chuck K4HF):** ARRL is beginning to publicize 2014 as the centennial year for ARRL, see www.arrl2014.org
- k. **At-Large Director (Don WA4AVU):** No report.
- l. **At-Large Director (Jack N6UYB):** No report.
- m. **At-Large Director (Bill AK4BL):** No report.
- n. **Food Service Chair (Joanne AK4RJ):** No report.
- o. **W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (Jeff AC4ZO):** No report.
- p. **RARS VE Coordinators (Joe WA4GIR and Liz KO4CK):** No report.
- q. **RARS Webmaster (Hank K4HM):** Hank K4HM has started to “clean out” old website data. Images of awards, plaques, and certificates, as well as photographs of public

service participants, are being added to the website. Hank K4HM provided an update on the registrations of items for the upcoming auction.

- r. **North Carolina QSO Party (Marty W4MY):** No Report

7. **Old Business:**

- a. **Financial review (Greg KE4PAX):** Greg KE4PAX reported that the financial review is scheduled for August 27th.
- b. **Amateur radio and the new Unified Development Ordinance (Karl W4CHX):** Karl reviewed the meetings with the Raleigh planning department and what the next steps will be.

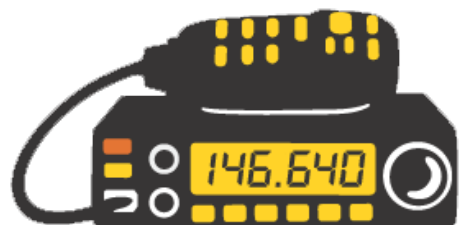
8. **New business:**

- a. **Recording of Board meetings:** Don WA4AVU will bring a XOOM digital recorder to the next RARS Board Meeting and determine if this will assist in collecting minutes.
- b. **December club meeting (“Christmas meeting”):** CJ NC4CJ is considering the direction that should be taken regarding donations collected at this meeting, eg, what type of donations should be collected and to what organization they should be sent. Please send CJ NC4CJ any suggestions.
- c. **Publicity for licensing classes and VE exams (Murray K4MHM):** Karl W4CHX will talk with Joe WA4GIR to assure that our VE exam sessions are listed on the ARRL website.
- d. **Additional meeting space (Greg KE4PAX):** Based on discussions that occurred earlier in the meeting, Greg KE4PAX will look into this matter.
- e. **Nominating committee:** Chuck K4HF was appointed chairman and Karl W4CHX was appointed to the committee. They will select a third member.

9. **Any other business:** None

10. **Board member’s comments:** None recorded.

11. **Adjournment (Karl W4CHX):** The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.



Minutes

General Membership Meeting Raleigh Amateur Radio Society September 3, 2013

1. **Call to order:** Karl W4CHX called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 p.m.
2. **Approval of minutes:** The Minutes of the RARS General Membership meeting on August 6, 2013 were approved.
3. **Vice President's report (CJ NC4CJ):** Deferred to later in the meeting.
4. **Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX):** Greg KE4PAX reported that currently 276 members. If any RARS member has any questions, please contact Greg KE4PAX or Karl W4CHX for further information.
5. **Drawing:** The winner of the drawing was Teresa Jenkins a guest at the meeting.
6. **Announcements (Karl W4CHX):**
 - a. **Upcoming RARS events and hamfests:** Karl W4CHX reminded everyone to see the Exciter, RARS website or the ARRL website for further information.
 - b. **After meeting gathering:** The after meeting gathering will be held at Applebee's, Six Forks and Wake Forest Roads (by the Costco).
 - c. **Public Service:** John AI4RT urged everyone to review upcoming events and volunteer. The next event is the Tour D'Orange He reminded everyone of the ham volunteer net on the Carolina 440 system at 7:30pm Wednesdays.
 - d. **Education:** Murray K4MHM reported that at the last Tech class 17 people passed the test. Another course starts next week at NCSt. He also reported that we have donated license manuals to the library.
 - e. **Silent Key:** Chuck K4HF reported that passing of Bruce WA9NEW.
 - f. **Repeater Status:** Karl reported that a new team is taking over the repairs to the building at Bayleaf.
7. **Vice Presidents Report:** CJ NC4CJ reminded everyone to register their "Stuff" for the RARS auction in November.
8. **Program:** CJ NC4CJ introduced Joe Huberman K5JGH. Joe gave a presentation on "fox hunting."
9. **Any other business:** None.
10. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO NETS

The **Apex Emergency Response Communications Net** meets weekly each Sunday at 9 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints' disaster relief efforts. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 p.m. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.

Please join us each Tuesday at 9:15 p.m. on the 146.880 repeater for the **Central Carolina SKYWARN** net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.

The **Ham Public Service Net** meets every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. and provides a forum and discussion platform for area clubs and individual hams to connect with and learn from other local hams who are interested in Ham Public Service. The HPSN is utilizing the Carolina 440 UHF Link System. The repeaters are also accessible through IRLP Reflector 9210, node 4270. The Ham Public Service North Carolina Yahoo Groups address is: www.groups.yahoo.com/group/hpsnc.

The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets daily at 9 p.m. on the 146.880 repeater. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 repeater at 8:00 p.m.

Join us every evening at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.

The **Wake County AUXCOMM Training Net** meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. on the 146.88 repeater. This net provides amateur radio operators information and training related to emergency communications and for our served agencies, such as Wake County Emergency Management. Please join us. For more information please visit <http://wake.nc.auxcomm.us/>.



Want to be a Published Author?

What's your favorite aspect of amateur radio? Emergency communications or home-brewing radios? Contesting or Special Events stations? Why not share your interests, knowledge, and experience with other hams in the *Exciter*?

Both technical and non-technical articles are needed for the *Exciter*. You could write up a short piece on your experience SAGing at a bike-a-thon or an in-depth piece about putting up an antenna in your attic. We'll take articles of any length!

To submit an article, just email your piece to the Editor (editor@rars.org). Please feel free to attach any appropriate pictures or graphics. Be sure to include caption information about the images and identify the people in photographs. And always obtain their permission to use their image.



We look forward to learning from each other and broadening our club's knowledge base! Break out those pens, pencils, or keyboards and get writing!

RARS Classifieds

Want to add a new radio to your shack? Have an antenna for sale? Browse the RARS classifieds for new and used radio equipment at <http://rars.org/classifieds.php> or see p. 10 of this newsletter for current listings.

RARS members may post notices about equipment they are selling. Posts last for 30 days and are editable at any time.

Using our classifieds is a great way for buyers to search for available items and for sellers to reach a local, targeted audience.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's

EXCITER

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
PO Box 17124
Raleigh, NC 27619

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